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## MARINE SAFETY INFORMATION BULLETIN 31-02

September 24, 2002

## Homeland Security Advisory System (HSAS) Threat Level: Elevated (Yellow) Maritime Security Condition: One

Based on a review of intelligence and an assessment of threats by the intelligence community, as well as the passing of the anniversary of the September 11 terrorist attacks and the disruption of potential terrorist operations in the United States and abroad, the Attorney General in consultation with the Homeland Security Council has made the decision to return the level to an elevated risk of terrorist attack, or "yellow" level. Accordingly, the Maritime Security Condition (MARSEC) in the Port of Fernandina, Jacksonville, and Canaveral has been returned to MARSEC 1.

The lowering of the threat and MARSEC level is not a signal to government, law enforcement, the port, or citizens that the danger of a terrorist attack is passed. Returning to the elevated level of risk is only an indication that some of the extra protective measures enacted by government, port, and the private sector may be reduced for the time being. We emphasize that the United States and its interests are still at a significant risk of terrorist attack. For this reason, and for the safety and security of our nation, Americans must continue to be alert; undaunted and prepared to respond to a significant risk of terrorist attacks.

The Captain of the Port extends his appreciation to all stakeholders for their patience, resolve, and the level of effort put forth during this period of heightened security. Through your collective efforts, we send a signal to those who would do us harm that America stands alert, united, and prepared.

R. J. PETOW Commander, U.S. Coast Guard Alternate Captain of the Port